

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Letters From the People.

**Anti-Annexation Sentiment
Strong and Pronounced—
The Pro-Annexationists
Thus Far Have Presented
No Case—Taxation Will Not
Be Decreased.**

Valuations Will Be Increased.

Newark's Taxing Method will be Applied Here and Valuations Jumped Up \$2,700,000—Recent Developments Tend to Show that Other Interests Rather than that of Taxpayers are at the Bottom of the Annexation Movement.

THREE DAYS BEFORE ELEC- TION CAMPAIGN.

The Pro-Annexationists have Engaged the School Halls for Meetings in Favor of Annexation—Some Indignation Felt Over the Use of the Schools for Partisan Purposes.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

The Newark Evening News published an editorial Wednesday night in favor of annexation. The editorial is being widely distributed as campaign literature by the pro-annexationists. The News, of course, wants to see annexation brought about for business reasons. The News says:

"The people of Bloomfield are aware that the men who started the movement are not politicians, but solid business people; the 'plot' was made public in time for the anti-annexationists to upset it if they had the power; the 'deceptive course' resulted in the placing of a referendum clause in the bill; the 'weak foundation' on which the plan rests is the good of the community, and the only 'humiliation' to which Bloomfield is submitted is that annexation will show that the people lack faith in the politicians who have been conducting her municipal affairs."

The Newark Evening News is regarded by some people as a newspaper that takes its orders from Halsey Street and implicitly obeys them. Orders have probably been sent out from Halsey Street to advocate annexation, and the News carries its subservience to the limit of misrepresentation. It is interesting to note the misrepresentations in the above paragraph taken from the News editorial.

The News says "the people of Bloomfield are aware that the men who started the movement are not politicians, but solid business men." The people of Bloomfield are not aware of any such thing; but, on the contrary, they know for a certainty that the men who started the annexation movement are leading local politicians; men who have held local official positions for years; men whose names have predominated in every list of delegates to a political primary, and men whose influence has always controlled politics here, and if they could have had their way in local politics this year there would have been no annexation scheme before the people of Bloomfield now.

The News says "the 'plot' was made public in time for the anti-annexationists to upset it if they had the power." The fact is the "plot" was originally made public along lines that rendered an upset impossible. The "plot" was to jam a bill through the Legislature without a referendum. The people upset as much of the "plot" as they could by forcing the plotters to abandon their original scheme and accept a referendum clause.

"The 'weak foundation' on which the plan rests," the News says, "is the good of the community." Two years ago most of the men who are now advocating annexation were proclaiming that the most deplorable thing that could happen to this community would be annexation to Newark, and it was these same men who turned the tide two years ago and killed the annexation movement. The News makes one statement that will probably find ready acceptance. It says: "The people of Bloomfield lack faith in the politicians who have been conducting her municipal affairs." It is so obvious that the men who have all along controlled Bloomfield's political affairs are the men who are now advocating annexation, and it is probably true that the people lack confidence in every scheme these men now advocate, and that is why there is such an adverse sentiment towards annexation to Newark.

Letters Continued on Page 2.

Vote 'AGAINST'

Annexation to Newark.

Don't be misled by promises of lower taxes and larger benefits. Your taxes will be no lower and you will pay full cost of every benefit received.

Partisan Meetings Called.

Notices have been issued of a series of meetings to be held in this town. The first of these meetings will be held to-night in Central Hall and on Monday night meetings will be held at Brookside Public School and at Prospect Street School.

The call for these meetings distinctly states that they are "meetings in favor of annexation." It is possible that the people who have called these meetings will vehemently deny that the call is a partisan one, in the same manner that they denied their intention of having an annexation bill without a referendum. But in the case of this call for a meeting the annexationists are on record, and they cannot evade or equivocate. In the much disputed referendum question the annexationists found loop holes through which to evade the charge that they wanted an annexation bill without a referendum. In this matter of calling these meetings, as in all other matters in which these men who stand for annexation are interested, there is an air of arrogant assumption. These same people have all along proceeded on the theory that they are the whole thing, and no others need be considered. There is no doubt at all if a move was made to use the public school buildings for strictly anti-annexation meetings the request would be denied, and it would be rightly denied. The Board of Education would be acting wisely in refusing the use of school halls for any partisan purpose, whether it be for or against annexation, or for the organization of a Hearst club. The Board of Education has made a serious mistake in permitting the use of the schools for strictly partisan meetings on this annexation question. It is establishing a dangerous precedent.

The public schools are the property of the people of Bloomfield, and whatever public meetings are held in the school halls should be carried out in such a manner that all the people can attend by virtue of their right to be there, and not by invitation.

Much indignation has been expressed since the annexationists sent out their circulars announcing that the school halls were to be used for "meetings in favor of annexation."

Advantages of Home Rule.

Like the people of this town, the people of Vailsburgh are making a study of their present municipal conditions and are giving reasons why there should be no change. The Vailsburgh opponents of annexation say:

"We wish to draw the attention of the citizens to the fact that situated as we now are, we are a compact family by ourselves, personally acquainted with each other and all affected by the same interests. What is a benefit or a detriment to one is a benefit or a detriment to all. Has any person a grievance which he wishes remedied, he knows where to apply for such remedy. His Council Chamber, his Board of Health and his School Board are close at hand. He does not have to travel miles to make his complaint, only to find that he is talking to unsympathetic ears, to persons who are not in touch with his needs, and who have troubles of their own to take up their entire time."

"We deplore the action of certain office-holders in the borough who have been elected by the people to serve their interests, and who are now using their influence to destroy the borough they represent. We pledge this Council to use our utmost endeavors to defeat this annexation scheme."

Are We Two-Cent Guys?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN: SIX: The annexationists have fired their heaviest gun. The great, grand and glorious benefit to be derived from annexation is the abolition of a two-cent transfer charge, wrongfully imposed upon the people of Bloomfield by the Public Service Corporation. It was supposed by remarks made at one of the "strictly confidential" meetings that the average price of thirty cents was placed upon the anti-annexationists. There appears to have been a great slump in prices, our estimated value is now two cents, payable in abolished transfer charges. The question arises, are we two-cent guys?

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

Vote 'AGAINST'

Annexation to Newark.

If you want to preserve a good public school system.

NEWARK TAX METHODS

Will Be Introduced Here If Annexation Takes Place—The Basis of Property Valuations Will Be Largely Increased—Even with a Lower Tax Rate Property Owners Will Pay More Money in Taxes.

This town's tax ratables are in round numbers \$5,000,000. Vailsburgh's tax ratables are \$1,473,400, or for convenience sake say \$1,500,000, making a total valuation in the two places of \$6,500,000. Both places are about to hold special elections to vote upon the question of annexation to Newark. The Newark Daily Advertiser in an editorial on Wednesday urging annexation said that under Newark taxing methods the taxable valuations in the two places would be increased to aggregate \$10,000,000, an increase of \$3,500,000. The ratio of valuations between Bloomfield and Vailsburgh is as 3 to 1, and the increase of \$3,500,000 would be made on that basis. Bloomfield's valuations would be increased \$2,625,000 and Vailsburgh's \$875,000.

If Bloomfield's present valuations were assessed according to the Newark basis of assessment the total valuations would be about \$7,650,000, which is just about the figure that the Daily Advertiser says the city's taxing methods would make it.

In the matter of the amount of taxes paid by a property owner the case will work out this way: A man who now owns a property in this town valued at \$4,200 is assessed on a valuation of \$2,500 and with a tax rate of \$3.10 he pays \$77.75. The same property under Newark's taxing method would be assessed at \$3,530 and under the city tax rate of \$2.32 the amount of taxes paid would be \$81.90, or an increase of \$4.15.

The Newark Daily Advertiser's statement that under Newark's taxing methods Bloomfield's valuations will be increased is the truth, and it is only reasonable to suppose that a uniform taxing method will prevail throughout all the territory within the city limits and no favorable discrimination will be made in annexed territory.

Special Session.

The Legislature will meet in special session on Tuesday, April 12. As soon as the Legislature meets the first of the Morris Canal bills will be passed. This provides that six days' notice shall be given of the introduction of the second measure, which was drafted by the Commission and provides the legal machinery for carrying out the recommendations made in their report. As soon as this is passed the requisite public notice will be given so that when the lawmakers come together again on the following Tuesday everything will be in legal shape for rushing the bill through.

On Good Roads.

The annexationists say that if we go into Newark we shall have better roads. The streets that are paved there are paved with either stone or asphalt, with the exception of the lower end of High street, which is telford. If the Board of Works of Newark should order the streets here repaired all the macadam that has been laid here at great cost would have to come up and the individual property-owners would be assessed to pay for the so-called improvements. How will this suit our annexation friends?

Thieves Unrewarded

The Glenwood avenue depot of the Lackawanna road was broken into early Thursday morning, but nothing was stolen. The cash drawer was forced open, but there was nothing in it, as the ticket agent had placed all his cash in the safe. When Ticket Agent Doremus arrived at the depot Thursday morning he found the floor strewn with pieces of wood and papers. Lackawanna detectives are investigating the affair. This is the third time the ticket office has been robbed recently.

Mrs. Gustavson, recently of New York city, solicits dressmaking. Children's work a specialty. 111 Harrison Street, Bloomfield, N. J.—Advt.

Too Good to Miss—Prices of coal for the month of April are down. Call on W. B. Corby, 267 Glenwood avenue, the oldest dealer in town.—Advt.

Vote 'AGAINST'

Annexation to Newark.

There is no such thing as road "repairs" under Newark rule. All road work is paid for by special assessment.

POLITICAL NOMINATIONS.

Three Parties to Be Represented in the Spring Election—Republicans, Citizens and Independent Candidates Nominated—Fetters Announced—Awaiting the Result of the Annexation Election.

There will be three tickets in the field on Tuesday, April 12th, the day of the spring election. Namely: Republican, Citizens and Independent.

The nominations filed with the Town Clerk William L. Johnson, are as follows: General town nominations for Councilman-at-Large, George Fisher, Republican; Peter J. Quinn, Independent and Citizens nominee; for Justice, George M. Cadmus, Thomas E. Hayes, and Walter M. Hopier, Republican nominees; Frederick N. Moffat, Citizens Independent nominee.

First Ward Republican nominations are as follows: Ward Councilman, Percy H. Johnson; Member of the Board of Education, Frank B. Stope; Constables, Antonio Federici, William H. Groshong, Benjamin F. Baldwin; Citizens ticket: For Ward Councilman, Charles J. Murray; Member of the Board of Education, Charles L. Seibert; Constable, Emil G. Schill.

The Second Ward Republican nominations are as follows: Ward Councilman, William B. Hepburn; Member of the Board of Education, Harry White; Constables, August Fredericks, James A. Campbell and Charles F. Hummel; Citizens ticket nominees: For Ward Councilman, James M. Walker; Member of the Board of Education, Dr. W. R. Broughton; Constables, Eugene G. Day, William Fornoff and Edward A. Gruber.

Third Ward Republican nominations: For Ward Councilman, Jesse C. Green; Member of the Board of Education, Samuel Ellor; Constables, John V. Smith, James Foster and Louis Schlier; Independent ticket: For Ward Councilman, Daniel J. Brady; Member of the Board of Education, Michael N. Higgins; Constables, Warren E. Stickie, George N. Corcoran; Citizens ticket: For Ward Councilman, Frank H. Unangst.

An Echo of the Past.

Two years ago the local business men held a meeting at which resolutions were adopted against annexation. David G. Garabrant made an address and pointed out, "neither of us knows why the scheme of annexation was objectionable and ought to be defeated. In the first place, he said, the manner and method of proceeding was objectionable. Again, there was no geographical or topographical reason in favor of annexation. He exhibited a map showing that the respective territories of Bloomfield and Newark were only slightly connected, and to pass from one to the other by the way of Bloomfield avenue necessitates going through Belleville territory.

In the matter of taxes, Mr. Garabrant did not deem the tax rate such an important factor as some would make it out to be. He was of the opinion that the tendency here was toward lower taxes, while the conditions in Newark were inevitably toward higher taxes. In the matter of schools, there was no question but what the town now enjoyed better school facilities than would be derived from Newark, and in the excise question the people would lose control of the saloon question, and there would be a great increase in the number of saloons.

That Tax Rate Suggests.

Some people think that because the tax rate is lower in Newark than it is here, that the tax bills will also be lower if annexation takes place. That city requires just so much money every year to run the government, and if a low tax rate will not bring in the required amount, up go the valuations into the millions. If the valuations were increased in the same ratio here every year as they are in Newark, there would be more growing than there is now about a high tax rate.

Easter at Westminster Church.

In the morning, at 10.30 o'clock, there will be communion service, and an address by the pastor, "An Easter Communion." In the evening there will be an Easter song service and an address by the pastor on "The Necessity of Christ's Resurrection." The chorus and quartette will sing the following selections: Tenor solo and chorus, "Hosanna." Grantee; quartette, "Awake, Awake, Utter a Song." Case; soprano solo, "Rejoice Greatly." Handel; quartette, "Shout, ye High Heavens." Chadwick; chorus, "Festival Te Deum." Buck.

Violin and piano instruction at pupils' home or teacher's residence. For terms address William J. Maler, No. 47 Fairmount avenue, Newark, N. J.—Advt.

Vote 'AGAINST'

Annexation to Newark.

There is no danger about the water supply. We will not have to take Passaic River water.

Monday Services at Christ Church.

Christ Episcopal Church will celebrate its tenth anniversary in its present church edifice on Easter Sunday. The floral decorations and the music will be more elaborate than ever before. The services will begin with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7 A. M., followed by a second celebration at 8 A. M. At 9.45 o'clock Bishop Lines will administer the holy rite of confirmation to a class of about fifty, the largest class in the history of the parish. The anniversary service will begin at 11 o'clock. The music will be Gounod's "Missa Frobenius, Salennelle;" J. S. Bach's "Benedictus;" Handel, "The Hallelujah Chorus;" from the oratorio of the Messiah, by Handel, will be sung at the presentation of the alms. The choir of nearly forty voices will be reinforced by an orchestra of several pieces. The sermon at this service will be preached by Rt. Rev. Edwin Stevens Lines, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese. At 3.30 P. M. will occur the choral festival of the Sunday school.

Banner-Kronold Concert.

The second and last concert in the library course will be given at Jarvis Memorial Hall, Thursday evening, at 8.15. The programme is as follows:

1. Quartette, "Aus meinem Leben." Schumann.
2. Viola Solo, "Zigeunerweisen." Sarasate.
3. Contralto Solo, "Aria from Orfeo." Gluck.
4. Cello solos, a) Romance, Becker; b) Scherzo, Gounod.
5. Quartettes, a) Andante Cantabile, Tchaikovsky; b) The Fly, Ruck.
6. Contralto Solos, Roses after Rain, Les Lehman.
7. Quintette, opus 81, in four movements, Bruckner.
8. Mr. Ward Stephens and the Banner-Kronold Quartette.

This is a splendid programme and bids fair to surpass that of March 8th, which gave such universal pleasure and satisfaction to the audience. We advise all our readers who can do so, to attend this concert.

Easter Music at Watsessing.

Easter Sunday will be appropriately observed at the Watsessing M. E. Church. At the morning service the Rev. F. G. Blight will preach an Easter sermon. In the evening the choir, under the leadership of choirmaster Arthur Ellor, will sing Farmer's Mass. The programme for the evening is as follows:

- Overture, "The Lord is in His Holy Temple." Ellor.
- Invocation, "Diadem." Ellor.
- Responsories, "Diadem." Ellor.
- Scripture Lesson, "Diadem." Ellor.
- Mass in G flat, Henry Farmer.

Town Finances.

The statistics published in the CITIZEN last week showing the good financial condition of the town were the subject of much comment during the week, and many people were surprised to learn that the town's financial condition was not at all deplorable, and all talk about approaching bankruptcy was nonsensical. Those who have not had an opportunity to read that financial statement should do so before deciding to vote for annexation. This town comparatively is in much better condition financially than Newark.

May Be Called Here.

Rev. Frank Churchill Woods of Upland, Pa., will preach in the First Baptist Church to-morrow, by invitation of the Pulpit Committee, the members of which, it is said, are favorable to him as the successor of Rev. Charles A. Cook. Three members of the Pulpit Committee, of which David G. Garabrant is Chairman, visited the Upland Baptist Church a week ago Sunday and heard Mr. Woods preach. Then they extended the invitation to preach here. The members of the Pulpit Committee have heard many candidates within the past five months.

Bowling Contest.

The annual bowling contest between teams representing the clerks and carriers of the Bloomfield Post Office will be held at Leuthausser's alleys on next Monday evening. The following will compete: Carriers—F. L. Baker (manager), F. P. Cadmus, G. S. Fornoff, W. W. Cadmus, O. W. Gourley; clerks—W. G. Bruett (manager), G. W. Heath, G. A. Ellor, F. E. Smith, J. A. Glennon; referee, W. H. Hall; scorer, S. G. Hayter.

Delightful Concert.

The final entertainment in the First Presbyterian Church Guild course took place Monday night, and the season closed with a delightful concert that was highly enjoyed by a large audience. The artists were Madame Rito, Mrs. Florence Mulford Hunt, Dr. Ion Jackson and Dr. Carl Duff, and were all well received. Dr. Jackson was repeatedly encoored.

Too Good to Miss—Prices of coal for the month of April are down. Call on W. B. Corby, 267 Glenwood avenue, the oldest dealer in town.—Advt.

Vote 'AGAINST'

Annexation to Newark.

Bloomfield's indebtedness is decreasing, Newark's is increasing.

AN OUTSIDE VIEW.

HOW MONTCLAIR PEOPLE LOOK UPON THE ANNEXATION FIGHT.

Newark Politicians Want Bloomfield for Political Reasons—A Grave Mistake will be Made in Surrendering Independence—Bloomfielders Advised not to Declare in Favor of Annexation.

David G. Garabrant insists upon it that there is no politics in his annexation scheme. Many people disagreed with Mr. Garabrant on that feature of his scheme. They are disposed to regard it wholly as a partisan political move. Especially in this latter view held outside of this town. The editor of the Montclair Times, who is on the inside in Republican county politics, regards Mr. Garabrant's scheme as a political one hatched simply for the purpose of aiding the Republican party in Newark city politics, and the Times says:

"At no time have the people of Bloomfield experienced such internal agitation as that which has been caused by the present movement for annexing the town to the city of Newark. The question is to be decided by popular vote at the coming town election, according to a referendum clause contained in the bill providing for the proposed annexation. If a majority of the voters declare in favor of being absorbed by Newark, the rest may be easy, for the Mayor and Common Council of that city will doubtless receive Bloomfield with open arms."

"The strange part of the present contest is that some of the leading citizens who have been bitterly and uncompromisingly opposed to being tacked on to Newark have suddenly come out as ardent annexationists. And many of those who have hitherto looked toward Newark with much favor have now joined hands with the anti-annexationists."

"In the event of annexation Bloomfield may preserve her autonomy, but it is a grave question whether her citizens will exercise the same degree of home rule as they do at present. Bloomfield as a part of Newark will be not unlike the dog's tail, and while the tail may wag over so much the dog will not be moved. As a new ward of the city she will have but one member in the Common Council and but one member in the Board of Education. How much influence can either of them bring to bear upon his colleagues to receive proper recognition for the people of his ward?"

"From Montclair's point of view it looks somewhat as though there might be a little politics in the annexation proposition. Bloomfield is a staunch Republican town and almost invariably gives large Republican majorities. These would prove very acceptable in helping to carry a closely contested Newark city election in favor of the Republican ticket, and no one can blame our Republican friends in Newark for being desirous of acquiring such an important party factor. For similar reasons Montclair would be regarded with even greater favor as a possible annex to Newark."

"Bloomfield is to-day in a better condition financially, despite her bonded indebtedness and her apparently high tax rate, than most towns of similar size in the State. She has a brighter future in store than at any time in recent years if wise Councils will but prevail. With improved trolley facilities and with six railroad stations within her borders additional manufacturing concerns will locate there and real estate develop accordingly. The tax rate will go down, new-comers will help to pay maturing bonds, and a healthy reaction is bound to follow."

"It does not seem probable that the people of our neighboring town have lost sight of these facts, and we doubt if a majority of them will declare in favor of annexation to Newark."

Horse in Officer's Lake Net.

A horse attached to an empty wagon owned by the city of Newark sunk to the mud in a drain near Belmont avenue, in Silver Lake, Tuesday. The driver was unable to get it out, but the animal was rescued by Justice Campbell and Constable Gorman of Belleville, who used a rope to lift the horse from the rig in vain until the officials who happened to be passing along, procured a rope and helped him out of his predicament.

PROTECT YOUR Earnings and valuable papers against FIRE and BURGLARS by routing a box to the Safe Deposit Vanities of The Mountbatten National Bank. Boxes to rent at \$2.50 per year and upwards.—Advt.

Vote 'AGAINST'

Annexation to Newark.

A two-cent transfer is among the least compensation for you to purchase your independence.